

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 78 (FRASER-CASCADE)**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
February 10, 2026**

PRESENT:

Board Representatives:

Pattie Desjardins	Trustee	Chair
Linda Kerr	Trustee	Alternate

Special Guest:

Anne Cooper		Consultant
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Committee Representatives:

Bernard Klop	Representative	FCPVPA
Belle Peters-Lepitre	Representative	Student
Coira Norwood	Representative	Student

District Staff:

Balan Moorthy	Superintendent
Gerry Slykhuis	Secretary-Treasurer
Renge Bailie	Assistant Superintendent
Deb McKinney	Executive Secretary
Antigone Snider	Executive Secretary

Observers:

Wendy Clark	Trustee	Trustee
Andrea Hensen	Trustee	Trustee

Regrets:

Wendy Colman-Lawley	Trustee	Committee Member
Greg Lawley	Representative	FCPVPA
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	FCTA
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	FCTA
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	CMAW
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	CMAW
Jen Riley	Representative	DPAC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	DPAC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	IEC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	IEC

1. Call to Order and Acknowledgment

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm via Zoom conference call. The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the shared territory of the Cheam, Sts'ailes, Sq'ewlets, Sq'ewqel, Shxw'owhámél, Seabird Island, Nlaka'pamux and Chawathil people.

2. Approval of Agenda – February 10, 2026

KERR/KLOP

THAT the agenda of the Policy Committee meeting for February 10, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes – January 6, 2026**DESJARDINS/KERR**

THAT the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on January 6, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

4. Drafts within Section 4.00 Human Resources

The Consultant provided a short summary of the status of policies in this section.

5. Drafts within Section 5 – Health & Safety

The Consultant provided a short summary of the status of policies in this section

6. Drafts for Discussion at the Meeting

The Consultant presented the following polices for discussion with the Committee:

5.20 – Provision of Menstrual Products**5.30 – Severe Allergic Reaction****4.50 – Recruitment of Executive, Exempt & Educational Leadership Staff****4.10 – Expectations of Employees****5.20 – Provisions of Menstrual Products**

The Consultant advised the revisions to the existing policy were updates to the language and simplifying the opening paragraphs. The overall intent of the policy remained intact and the District has been implementing the policy since 2019. The Committee clarified that menstrual products are available in the washrooms and some counselling rooms so they are readily available to students.

DESJARDINS/KERR

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that Policy 5.20 Provisions of Menstrual Products – be forwarded to the Board for public notice and comment.

Carried

5.30 – Severe Allergic Reaction

The Consultant provided an overview of the proposed changes to the policy including replacing the word child/children with the word student/students. The Committee recommended a title change to Students with Severe Allergies. The Committee determined it is optimal to keep the policy focused on students as protocols for staff are

addressed through different mechanisms such as WorkSafe BC. The guidelines therefore focused on students. The Committee added a key sentence to emphasize the education component for all staff and students to ensure awareness of severe allergies.

The Committee agreed it is optimal to focus the guidelines on contacting 911 versus administering an EPI pen if it is unknown whether the student suffers from a severe allergy. The Consultant recommended the procedures outlined in the existing policy 7340 provide a detailed basis for a new Administrative Procedure but the language would need simplifying and updating.

DESJARDINS/KLOP

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that Policy 5.30 Students with Severe Allergies – be forwarded to the Board for public notice and comment.

4.50 – Recruitment of Executive, Exempt & Educational Leadership Staff

The Consultant updated the Committee on the changes to the draft policy since the January 6, 2026 Policy Committee meeting. The Consultant outlined what the executive positions are and what the exempt and leadership staff roles are. The consultant added language to emphasize determining the selection criteria, selection committee membership, and the outlining the role description prior to any recruitment activities. The list of entities to seek input from is unchanged from the previous draft.

For Section 3, the Consultant updated the language to include definitive criteria where the Superintendent wants to establish a new position, change the organizational structure, reallocate staff and where there are impacts to school operations. In these circumstances, the policy stipulates that the Superintendent will consult with the Board.

The Consultant included language stating the Superintendent would advise the Board prior to any public announcements of strategic appointments. The Committee discussed the difference in language between “consult” and “approve”. The Consultant advised that in circumstances of possible overreach by the Superintendent, the Board could pass a motion to address it. The intent of the policy is to allow for strategic discussion when positions need to be filled and confirm the optimal recruitment approach.

DESJARDINS/KLOP

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that Policy 4.50 Recruitment of Executive, Exempt & Educational Leadership Staff – be forwarded to the Board for public notice and comment.

4.10 – Expectations of Employees

Due to time constraints, the Committee conducted a partial review of the new policy and deferred completing the review until the next Policy Committee meeting. The Consultant advised that this is the first review of the new policy and that it was a consolidation of two existing policies: 6233 “Substance Dependence/Impairment” and 6540 “Absenteeism”.

The purpose of the policy is to provide general guidelines for appropriate conduct for all staff across the District. The Consultant reviewed the draft definitions and advised they would review the definition for “Professional Boundaries” and propose an updated definition at the next meeting. The Committee discussed what occurs when staff violate the policy which could entail different protocols depending on the situation. The Committee reviewed the Guidelines and considered language that focuses on staff across the District rather than specifics for teaching or support roles. The Committee discussed what is optimal in terms of staff awareness regarding the new policy and agreed it would be a key component to onboarding new staff and an annual review with all staff. The Consultant advised they would consider additional language to emphasize a more positive tone in the introductory paragraphs and provide that at the next Policy Committee meeting. The Committee discussed the complexity of scenarios regarding staff and student relationships and agreed this would need further consideration at the next meeting with emphasis on what is in the best interest of students.

7. For Further Discussion

Need for policy **5080 Unauthorized Visitors in Schools**; due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

8. Questions & Comments - Nil

9. New Business - Nil

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 4:30-6:00 pm
Via Zoom conference call

ADJOURNMENT

DESJARDINS

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:07 pm